

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/036,663

Examiner

Wenpeng Chen

Applicant(s)

MUKHERJEE ET AL.

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed on 7/21/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-3, 5-12, 14-17, and 19-20 (now renumbered as 1, 3-7, 9-16, 2, and 8 respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- 1 ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Wenpeng Chen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2625

12/13/05

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 7/21/2005 has been entered.

Examiner's Amendment/Statement

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Joe Imhof on 10/11/2005.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In claims:

-- In Claim 14, change [Claim 13] to -Claim 11- in line 1.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

4. Claims 1, 4, 13, and 18 are canceled by the applicants.

5. Claims 2-3, 5-12, 14-17, and 19-20 (now renumbered as 1, 3-7, 9-16, ,2, and 8 respectively) are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter. The prior art fails to teach the method of Claim 2 which specifically comprises the following features in combination with other limitations:

c) for each block in turn, determining a current target block size, the current target block size for said first block being said baseline target block size, **the current target block size for said intermediate block and said last block being equal to the said current baseline target block size plus an accumulating savings associated with the preceding block in said series;**

d) for each block in turn, **selecting a compression mode based on the number of colors in said block**, said compression mode to compress that block so that **the resulting compressed block fits its corresponding target block size as determined in step c;** and

e) for each block in turn, compressing the block using the compression mode selected in step d to yield a corresponding compressed block.

The prior art fails to teach the system of Claim 11 which specifically comprises the following features in combination with other limitations:

--a mode selector coupled to said encoder for **selecting one of said compression modes for compressing a given source block based on the number of colors in said given source**

Art Unit: 2624

block, said mode selector ***selecting a compression mode at least in part as a function of a target block size for a current source block***;

-- an evaluator for **determining the target block size for each of said source blocks**.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wenpeng Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7431. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on 571-272-7453. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300 for regular communications and 571-273-8300 for After Final communications. TC 2600's customer service number is 571-272-2600.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.

Application/Control Number: 10/036,663

Page 5

Art Unit: 2624

Wenpeng Chen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2625

October 13, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wenpeng Chen', written in a cursive style.